

REMARKS

This Amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action dated March 27, 2003, having a shortened statutory period set to expire June 27, 2003. In the present Amendment, Claims 1-30 have been amended. Claims 1-30 are now pending.

The Examiner rejected Claims 1-30 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(e), as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,275,223 to Hughes. The Examiner stated that Hughes disclosed all of Applicants' invention.

Applicants believe the claims, as amended, overcome the rejection of Claims 1-30 as anticipated by the patent to Hughes and ask that the rejection be withdrawn. Hughes discloses a source code inspection tool for allowing developers to create annotation data and forward the annotation data to a centralized data store. Hughes teaches that annotations to the source code require the user match the annotations with the source code line number (See Hughes, Col. 14, Lines 27-30). The user is required to manually enter a line number to which the annotation relates, together with an annotation text entry. (See Hughes, Col. 50-57). Hughes discloses that the code inspection tool allows the annotation data to be stored in a separate file that is not part of any error message, but is part of the code inspection tool. (See Hughes, Col. 14, Lines 14-19).

Applicants' invention is directed to an application code development tools for interacting with a source code compiler that has generated compiler error messages. (See Specification, Page 10, Lines 6-11). The compiler error messages are created having a second initially empty error message file. (See Specification, Page 10, Lines 18-20). Applicants' invention provides for the storage of associated annotation information directly into the empty error message file. This ensures the user cannot corrupt the original error message while adding the annotation information. (See Specification, Page 11, Lines 1-4). Applicants' invention does not rely on matching or entering source code line numbers for the annotation information but instead creates unique keys for associating compiler error messages with annotation text. (See Specification, Page 11, Line 13-17).

Applicants believe that the claims, as amended, recite an invention over that shown in Hughes. Exemplary Claim 1 now recites a method for managing compiler error messages. Unlike the Hughes patent, which requires a user to work with source code containing errors, Applicants' invention interactively operates with a compiler, which has produced compiler error messages (See Specification, Page 10, Lines 6-11). The compiler in Applicant's invention is required to create the compiler error messages with a separate but initially empty error file for the annotations. (See Specification, Page 10, Lines 18-20) Hughes provides no such capability but requires the user to manually enter source code line numbers for the annotations. This requirement in Hughes increases exposure to additional coding errors by the user when appending annotation data. The introduction of errors when appending annotations is explicitly prevented in Applicants' invention. (See Specification, Page 11, Lines 1-4) Furthermore, Hughes requires the user enter the source code line number for each source code statement requiring annotation data. Applicants' invention in contrast provides for the automatic creation of unique keys for annotation text by combining a catalog name and a message key within the catalog. (See Specification, Page 11, Lines 13-17). Applicants believe the claims, as amended, recite an invention over the Hughes reference and asked that the rejection be removed. Applicants believe all pending claims are now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests such allowance.

No additional fee is believed to be required; however, in the event any additional fees are required, please charge IBM Corporation Deposit Account No. 09-0447.

Respectfully submitted,



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